



Hello Friends:

A few months back, I wrote to you about a report released by the **California State Attorney General** titled [Task Force on Local Criminal Justice Response to Domestic Violence](#). The report studied how prosecutors handle domestic violence cases, restraining orders, and batterer intervention.

This week, **Jan Sublett**, Executive Director for the Alliance Against Family Violence and I hosted a very productive Domestic Violence Stakeholders meeting with local law enforcement in **Kern County** to discuss the findings in the report. Joining us at the meeting was Special Assistant to the Attorney General **Paul Seave** who shared with us some very important information about how law enforcement handles domestic violence in **Kern County**. The report found that compared to the rest of the counties in the state, **Kern County** rates average with respects to how they handle domestic violence issues. There is obvious room for improvement, but from this meeting I'm confident that we are headed in the right direction.

As a follow-up to this meeting, I plan on inviting the **Assembly Select Committee on Domestic Violence to Kern County** to examine this issue deeper. I'll keep you posted as times and dates are set for the hearing.

Read more about the Domestic Violence Stakeholders meeting in the **Bakersfield Californian** by going to: www.bakersfield.com/local/story/5635620p-5652654c.html

If you or anybody you know needs counseling, protective order assistance, hospital accompaniment or a safe place to stay, please contact any of the hotlines listed below.

Alliance Against Family Violence & Sexual Assault (Kern County): 1-800-273-7713

Fresno County Majaree Mason Center: 1-800-640-0333

Kings County Community Action Organization: 1-877-727-3225

Tulare County Family Violence Hotline: 1-800- 448-2044

National Hotline for Domestic Violence: 1-800-799-7233

KERN COUNTY VETERANS' ANNUAL STAND DOWN

This week I also attended the **Kern County Veterans' Annual Stand Down** at **Stramler Park** in **Bakersfield**. Each year the **Veterans of Kern County Inc.**, veterans and volunteers from throughout **Kern County** organize this event to benefit our homeless heroes. I had an amazing time as we listened to patriotic music and participated in a special tribute to our Armed Forces.

A little history of the Stand Down...

During war time, a Stand Down referred to combat units who moved out of the battle field to a safe place where they rest and recover. Today, a Stand Down refers to a community-based intervention program designed to help homeless veterans. During a Stand Down, veterans and volunteers provide homeless veterans with food, clothing, job assistance, legal and mental health assistance.

The first Stand Down was organized by two Vietnam Veterans, Robert Van Keuren and Dr. Jon Nachison during the summer of 1988. There are nearly 100 Stand Down events throughout the nation each year. It is estimated that more than 100,000 homeless veterans have been assisted by Stand Downs.

WOMEN'S ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

What a great meeting this was! I want to thank all the women who were able to take time out of their work day to participate in this ongoing working group. We had so many new participants that we had to re-establish priority issues for the group. Below are just some of the issues we will begin to explore further at our next meeting.

- Affordable Housing
- Access to Health Care (rural vs. urban)
- Teen Pregnancy Prevention Education
- Vocational Education
- Domestic Violence (restraining orders)
- Mental Health

For more information on the Women's Advisory Group please contact Teresa Plascencia at (559) 585-7170 or at Teresa.Plascencia@asm.ca.gov.

Read more about the Women's Advisory Group in the **Fresno Bee** by going to: www.fresnobee.com/local/sv/v-printerfriendly/story/11373428p-12120323c.html

I WANT YOUR IDEAS!!

It's that time of year again when legislators start brainstorming for legislative ideas they can introduce as assembly bills in February and eventually turn into law. As a result, I've been busy meeting with various groups and individuals throughout my district to determine what issues in the Valley can best be addressed with new legislation. If you have any ideas for new laws please e-mail me at Assemblymember.Parra@assembly.ca.gov . Make sure to include the words "**New Legislation**" on the subject line.

VETERANS BUS RIDE – New Update

For a couple of weeks now I have been telling you about our **Veterans Bus Ride** happening next month. I'm excited to inform you that **Joey Perez** of **J-Live Entertainment** has volunteered to provide entertainment for our veterans during our visit in Fresno.

Just to recap ...on **Monday, November 7th**, veterans will meet me at my Bakersfield district office and board a bus I've chartered for a trip to the VA Hospital in Fresno. We will make a stop in **Hanford** to pick up some more people and then continue on to Fresno. During the drive we'll have an opportunity to discuss issues affecting California veterans. Upon arriving in Fresno, we will spend time with the rest of our Valley's heroes, tour the VA Hospital, and take part in some live entertainment. After the visit, we'll board the bus back to **Bakersfield**, arriving home at approximately **3:30 p.m.**

Spaces on the bus are limited. I encourage you to R.S.V.P as soon as possible by calling Richard Valle at (559) 585-7170. I look forward to seeing you on **Monday, November 7th**.

CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE CENTRAL VALLEY

In the first California Partnership for the Central Valley meeting, proposed working groups were established as a means of addressing some of the needs of the Valley. I want to encourage everyone to get involved in these groups to ensure that the concerns you are interested in are addressed. All you have to do is contact my Chief of Staff Cynthia Léon by e-mail at Cynthia.Leon@asm.ca.gov and she will make sure that you are added to the working group of your choice. Below is the list of working groups.

- **Economic Development**
- **Higher Education**
- **K-12 Education**
- **Transportation**
- **Land Use, Agriculture and Housing**
- **Air Quality and Environment Protection**
- **Water Quality and Environmental Protection**
- **Health and Human Services**
- **Technology and Advanced Telecommunications**

EVENTS

During our legislative break, I will be attending several meetings and events throughout the district. Below you will find just a few of the public events that I am scheduled to attend in November.

If you or your organization would like to set up a time to meet with me or would like for me to attend an event you are sponsoring, please feel free to contact my Executive Secretary Ellen Manolis at (916) 319-2030 or by e-mail at Ellen.Manolis@asm.ca.gov .

November (Tentative)

- **San Joaquin Valley Fall Commencement** - November 4th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Bakersfield

- **Pink Diamonds Fashion Show & Luncheon** - November 5th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Hanford
- **CA Apartment Association 8th Annual Awards Event** - November 5th from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Fresno
- **Kern County Battalions Welcome Home Ceremony** - November 9th from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in San Rafael
- **Veterans Day Parade** – November 11th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Bakersfield
- **Bakersfield Leadership Program Conference** – November 18th from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in Bakersfield
- **Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in Kingsburg** – November 25th from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in Kingsburg
- **Hanford Christmas Parade** – November 25th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Hanford

GUN SAFETY SEMINAR

On **October 22nd**, I will host a **Gun Safety Seminar** at **Burris Park in Kingsburg** from **2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** We will be discussing important safety tips and new gun laws we should all be familiar with. Free trigger locks will be given out to those who attend. Burris Park is located at 6500 Clinton Ave. in Kingsburg. For more information please contact Frank Stiger at (559) 585-7170 or at Frank.Stiger@asm.ca.gov.

HEALTH FAIR

On **November 3rd**, I will host a **Senior Health Fair** at the **Shafter Senior Center** from **11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** I encourage you all to attend as I will be providing a legislative update on health care. The Shafter Senior Center is located at 505 Sunset Ave. in Shafter. For more information please contact Juan Cerda at (661) 334-3745 or at Juan.Cerda@asm.ca.gov.

HEALTH ADVISORY GROUP MEETING – OSHPD Town Hall

As part of a follow-up to a Health Advisory Group meeting we had a few months ago, I will be hosting a Town Hall with the Office of Statewide Planning and Development (OSHPD) on **November 4th** from **10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at the **UC AG Extension in Hanford**. This is a very important meeting as we will provide a briefing on how to apply for Hospital Workforce & Community Development Division (HWCDD) programs. The UC AG Extension is located at 680 North Campus Drive, Suite F in Hanford. For more information please contact Frank Stiger at (559) 585-7170 or at Frank.Stiger@asm.ca.gov.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM IDENTITY THEFT

Each year thousands of people become victims of identity theft and don't even know it. Identity theft takes place when someone takes some piece of your personal information and uses it without your knowledge or consent. Below are just a few of the tips you can follow to help lower your risk of being victimized.

1. **Protect your Social Security Number** – Don't carry your Social Security card in your wallet.
2. **Shred important documents instead of throwing them away** – Shred documents with your personal information.
3. **Check your credit reports for free** – Be sure to monitor your credit history. You receive one free credit report per year from each of the three credit bureaus: Equifax, Experian, and

Trans Union. Order your free credit reports by phone, toll-free, at 877-322-8228 or online at www.annualcreditreport.com/cra/index.jsp .

4. **Stop pre-approved credit offers** - Pre-approved credit card offers make a tempting target for identity thieves who steal your mail. Have your name removed from credit bureau marketing lists by calling 888-5OPTOUT (888-567-8688).

'ICE' IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES

Give emergency personnel another tool in providing you with the necessary medical services by using **'ICE'**. It only takes a minute. All you have to do is enter into your cell phone's address book the acronym **'ICE'** with a name and phone number of the individuals you would like to be contacted in case of an emergency.

INTERNS WANTED

I am accepting applications for the fall internship program in my **Hanford, Bakersfield** and **Sacramento** offices. Candidates should be residents of the 30th Assembly District, possess solid research and communication skills, and have a strong interest in public policy and political issues facing the Central Valley. Applications can be found by going to:

<http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30/>.

For Hanford office internships contact **Matt Rogers** at **(559) 585-7170** or by e-mail at Matt.Rogers@asm.ca.gov.

For Bakersfield office internships contact **Manuel Barrera** at **(661) 334-3745** or by e-mail at Manuel.Barrera@asm.ca.gov.

For Sacramento office internships contact **Michael Tamariz** at **(916) 319-2030** or by e-mail at Michael.Tamariz@asm.ca.gov .

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Web Site: <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30/>

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